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#11 IN A TWELVE-ISSUE LIMITED SERIES

THE VISION 'AND THE Scarlet Witch

GUEST-STARRING
PETER PARKER
THE SPECTACULAR
SPIDER-MAN!

THE SELF-PROCLAIMED
**KING OF
EVIL
MUTANTS**
RETURNS!



MORGAN & MCKENNA '86

He's a synthetic man! She's a mutant sorceress! Once they were outcasts, but now they have each other, and a love which can withstand every danger they face!

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

VISION and the Scarlet Witch

SPRING HAS SPRUNG, AND AS WE SEE HERE, THE SAP IS RISING-- SO EVEN THE MOST CONFIRMED CITY-DWELLERS HAVE GRABBED THE FIRST SUNNY SUNDAY TO HEAD FOR THE WIDE-OPEN SPACES--

--SOMEWHERE STILL OUT THERE TO THE WEST!

BUT THOUGH HE SINGS A LILTING SONG, SOMEONE IN THIS PICTURE'S ON HIS WAY TO WORK RIGHT NOW, AND WOULDN'T YOU JUST KNOW WHO!

STEVE ENGLEHART--STORY
RICHARD HOWELL--PENCILS
FRANK SPRINGER--INKS
BILL OAKLEY--LETTERS
GEORGE ROUSSOS--COLORS
JIM SALICRUP--EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER--EDITOR IN CHIEF

A
TAXING
TIME!

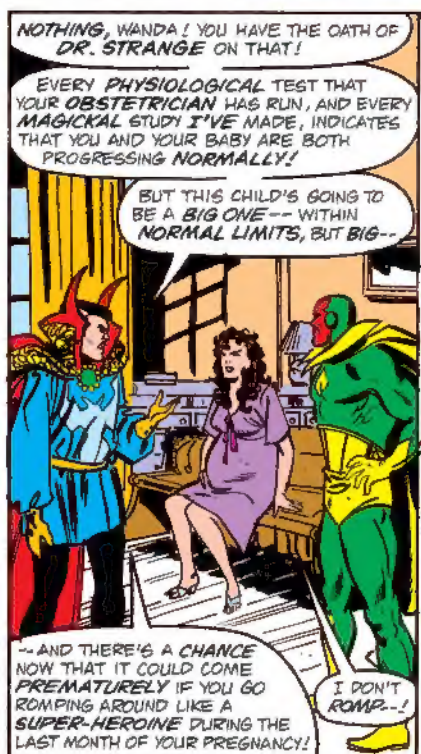
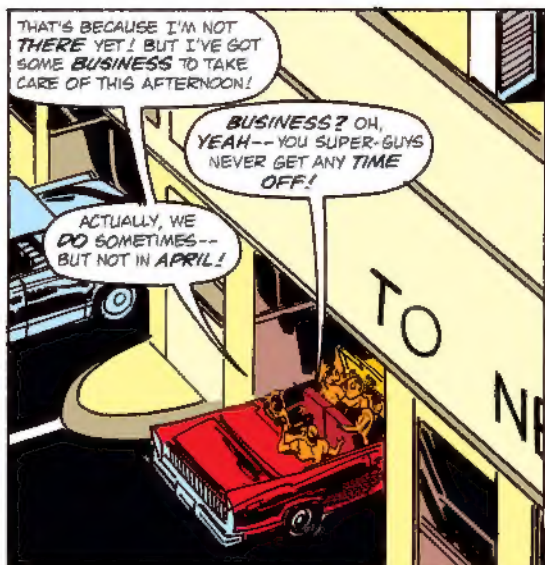
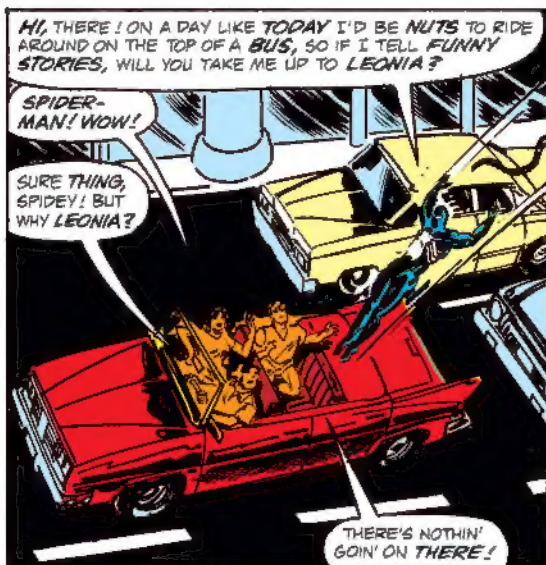
DONNIE!
LOOK! IT'S
SPIDER-MAN!

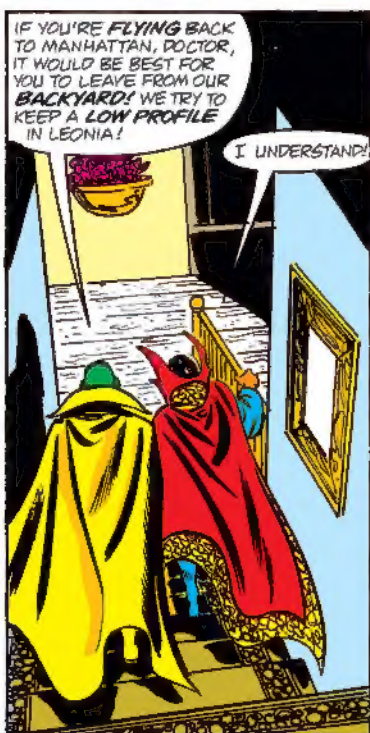
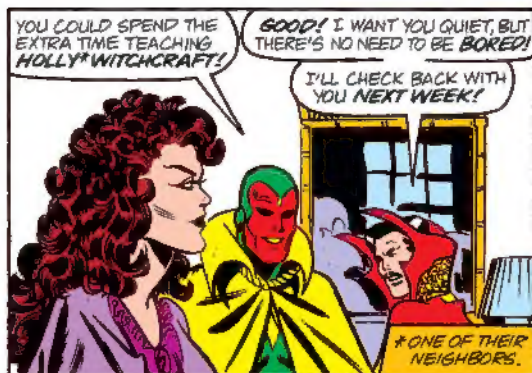
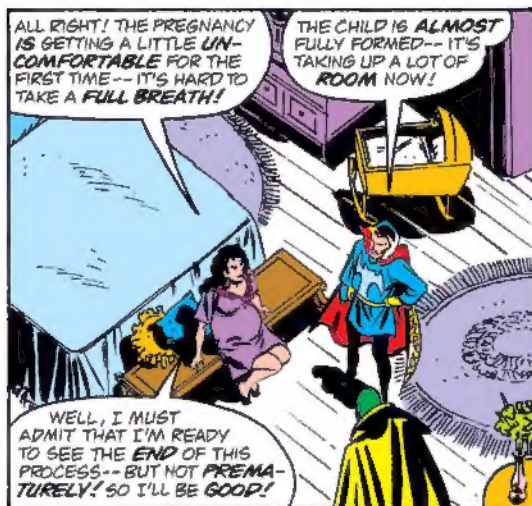
YOU LOOK, TRISH! IF
I LOOK WE'LL END UP AT
THE INTERNATIONAL
HOUSE OF PANCAKES!

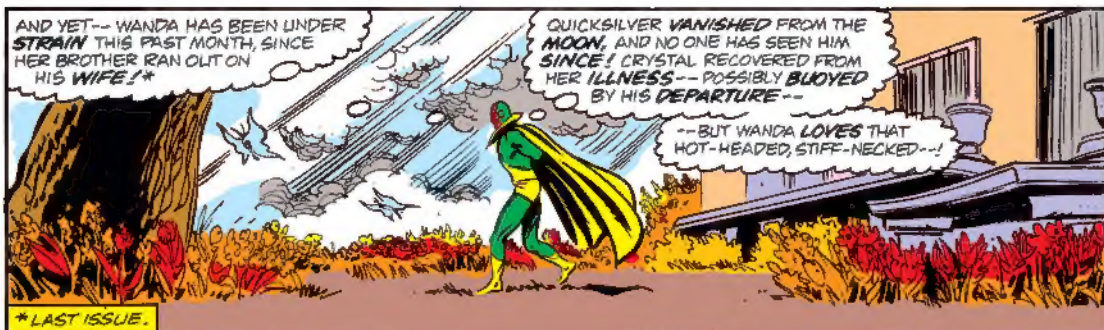
M. ELU
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POLICE





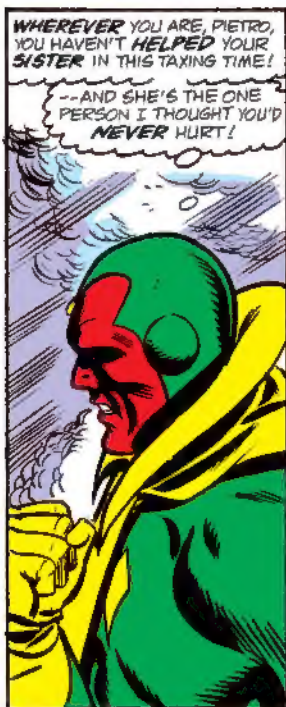


AND YET-- WANDA HAS BEEN UNDER STRAIN THIS PAST MONTH, SINCE HER BROTHER RAN OUT ON HIS WIFE!*

QUICKSILVER VANISHED FROM THE MOON, AND NO ONE HAS SEEN HIM SINCE! CRYSTAL RECOVERED FROM HER ILLNESS-- POSSIBLY BUOYED BY HIS DEPARTURE--

--BUT WANDA LOVES THAT HOT-HEADED, STIFF-NECKED--!

*LAST ISSUE.



WHEREVER YOU ARE, PIETRO, YOU HAVEN'T HELPED YOUR SISTER IN THIS TAXING TIME!

--AND SHE'S THE ONE PERSON I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER HURT!



--YES, HOLLY-- THIS AFTERNOON IF YOU WANT!

SEE YOU SOON!

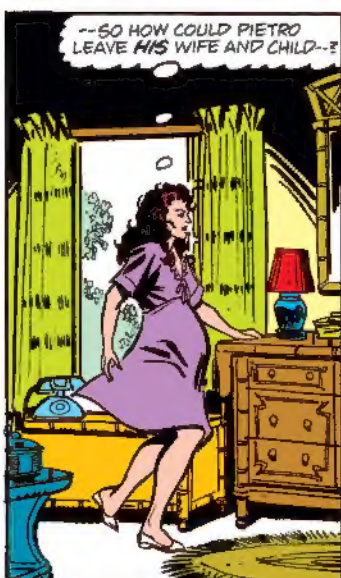
OH, VIZH YOU LOOK SO FIERCE--!



IF ONLY EVERYONE WHO CALLED YOU AN UNFEELING SYNTHOZOID COULD SEE YOU NOW-- A PROUD AND PROTECTIVE FATHER-TO-BE!

WE ALL SEE ME BECOMING PRIMALLY FEMININE, BUT THE PRIMAL MASCULINE COMES OUT IN DADDIES, TOO-- WHATEVER THEIR ORIGINS!

WE TWO HAVE NEVER BEEN CLOSER THAN NOW, JUST BEFORE WE BECOME THREE--!



--SO HOW COULD PIETRO LEAVE HIS WIFE AND CHILD--?

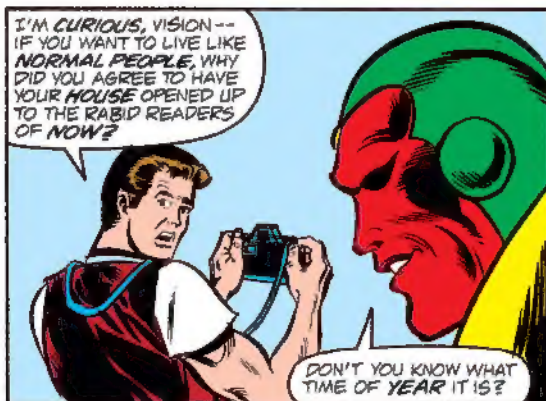
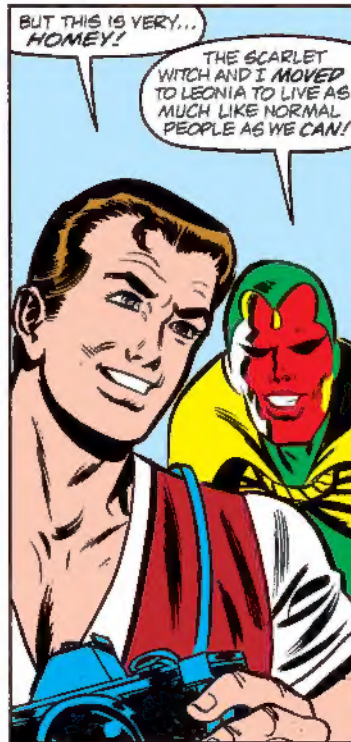
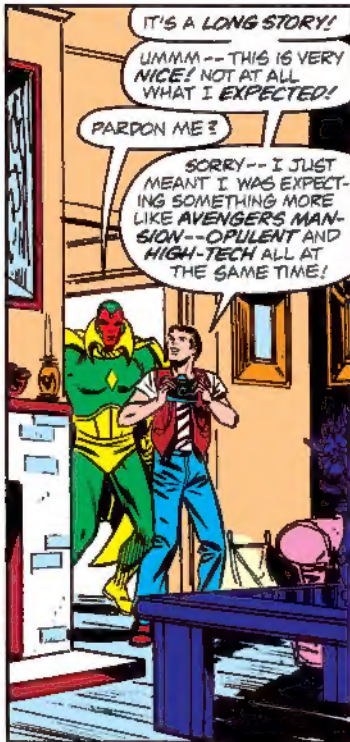
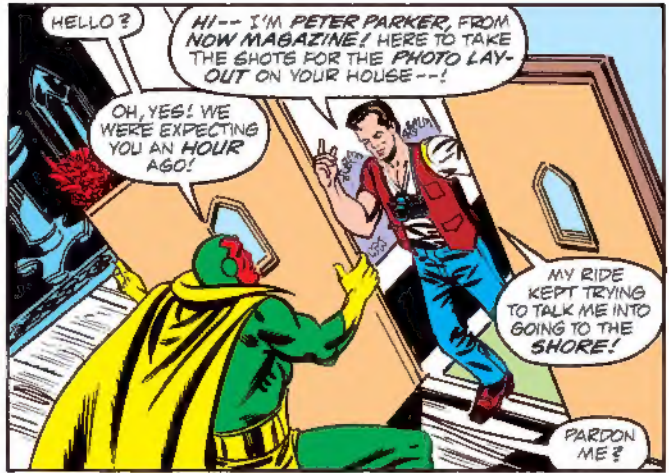


OH, PIETRO-- DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO FIGHT THE WORLD? CRYSTAL'S AFFAIR WITH NORM WEBSTER WAS WRONG, BUT EVERYONE MAKES MISTAKES! EVERYONE-- EVEN YOU!



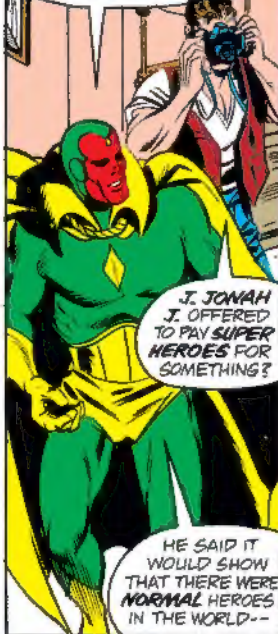
BUT YOU THINK YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT-- MEANING YOU THINK THE REST OF US ARE WORSE! ALL OF US-- EVEN ME!

I CAN'T FEEL SORRY FOR CRYSTAL --BUT I WISH YOU HADN'T HURT ME--!



WHEN WANDA AND I WERE AVENGERS, WE EACH PREW SALARIES OF \$1000 A WEEK, BUT SINCE OUR RESIGNATIONS WE'VE BEEN LIVING ON SAVINGS!

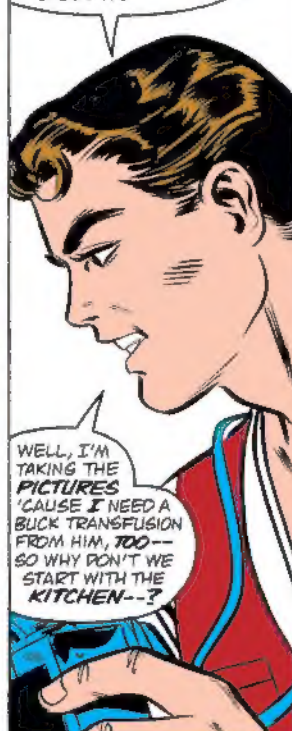
SINCE WE MADE SO MUCH MONEY LAST YEAR BUT AREN'T MAKING IT NOW, I ACCEPTED MR. JAMESON'S OFFER!



J. JONAH J. OFFERED TO PAY SUPER HEROES FOR SOMETHING?

HE SAID IT WOULD SHOW THAT THERE WERE NORMAL HEROES IN THE WORLD--

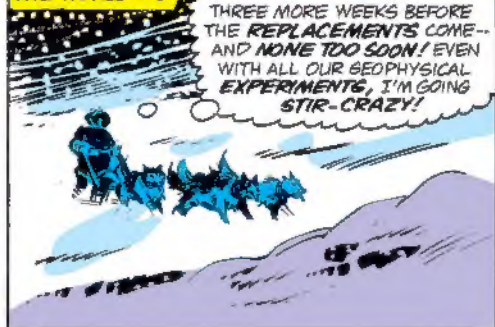
--AS OPPOSED TO THAT WELL-KNOWN MENACE, SPIDER-MAN! YEAH, I GET IT!



WELL, I'M TAKING THE PICTURES 'CAUSE I NEED A BUCK TRANSFUSION FROM HIM, TOO-- SO WHY DON'T WE START WITH THE KITCHEN--?

IT'S A LAZY SPRING SUNDAY IN LEONIA...

...BUT AT THAT VERY SELFSAME MOMENT, IT'S A WHOLE OTHER STORY AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD---



THREE MORE WEEKS BEFORE THE REPLACEMENTS COME-- AND NONE TOO SOON! EVEN WITH ALL OUR SEDYPHYSICAL EXPERIMENTS, I'M GOING STIR-CRAZY!



THE SAME ELEVEN ROOMS INSIDE THE STATION--THE SAME EMPTY WHITE-NESS OUTSIDE! NOTHING EVER CHANGES--!



WHAAA!!

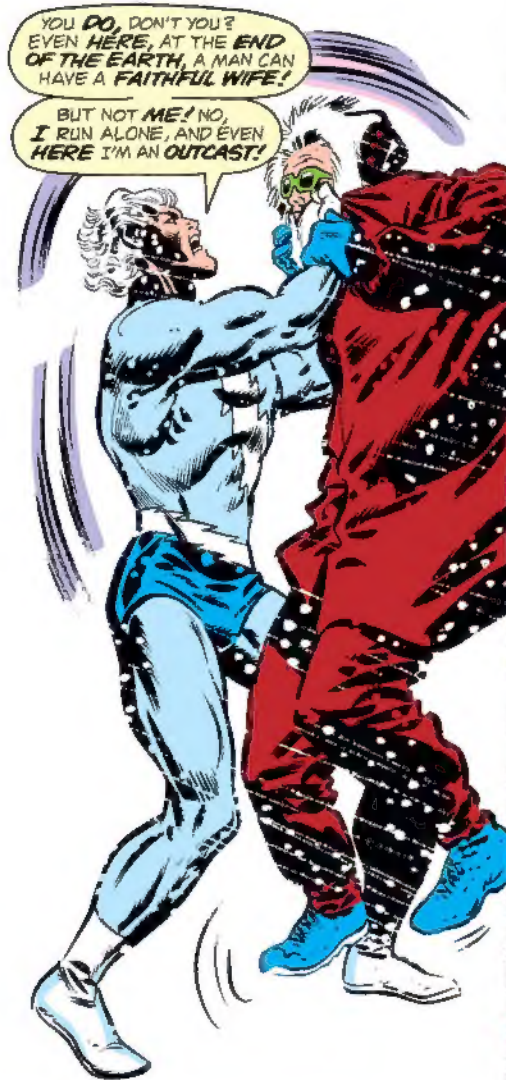
YOU! HUMAN!



DO YOU HAVE A WIFE?

DO YOU HAVE A LOVE IN YOUR LIFE?

WH-WHERE DID YOU COME FROM? ONE MOMENT YOU WEREN'T THERE-- THEN YOU WERE!



YOU DO, DON'T YOU?
EVEN HERE, AT THE END
OF THE EARTH, A MAN CAN
HAVE A FAITHFUL WIFE!

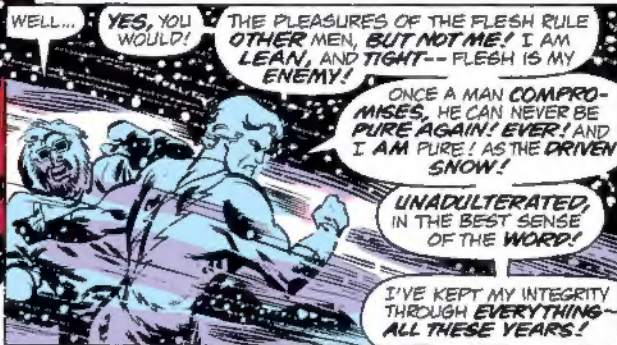
BUT NOT ME! NO,
I RUN ALONE, AND EVEN
HERE I'M AN OUTCAST!



BUT IT'S MY CHOICE!
YOU HEAR ME?
MY CHOICE!

THEY WANTED
ME TO TAKE HER
BACK-- SWALLOW
MY PRIDE AND
ACCEPT THAT
SOILED WOMAN
BACK INTO MY
ARMS!

WOULD YOU
DO IT--?



WELL...

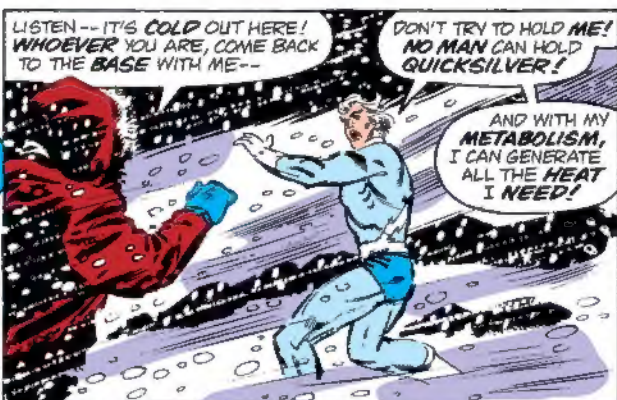
YES, YOU
WOULD!

THE PLEASURES OF THE FLESH RULE
OTHER MEN, BUT NOT ME! I AM
LEAN, AND TIGHT-- FLESH IS MY
ENEMY!

ONCE A MAN COMPROMISES,
HE CAN NEVER BE
PURE AGAIN! EVER! AND
I AM PURE! AS THE DRIVEN
SNOW!

UNADULTERATED,
IN THE BEST SENSE
OF THE WORD!

I'VE KEPT MY INTEGRITY
THROUGH EVERYTHING--
ALL THESE YEARS!



LISTEN-- IT'S COLD OUT HERE!
WHOEVER YOU ARE, COME BACK
TO THE BASE WITH ME--

DON'T TRY TO HOLD ME!
NO MAN CAN HOLD
QUICKSILVER!

AND WITH MY
METABOLISM,
I CAN GENERATE
ALL THE HEAT
I NEED!



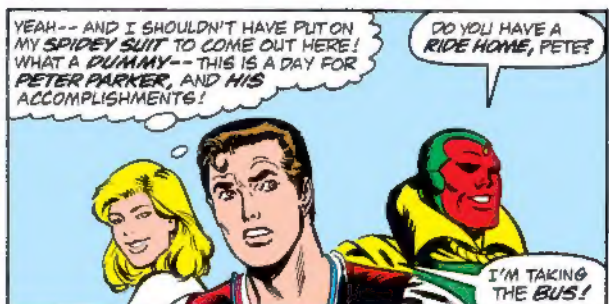
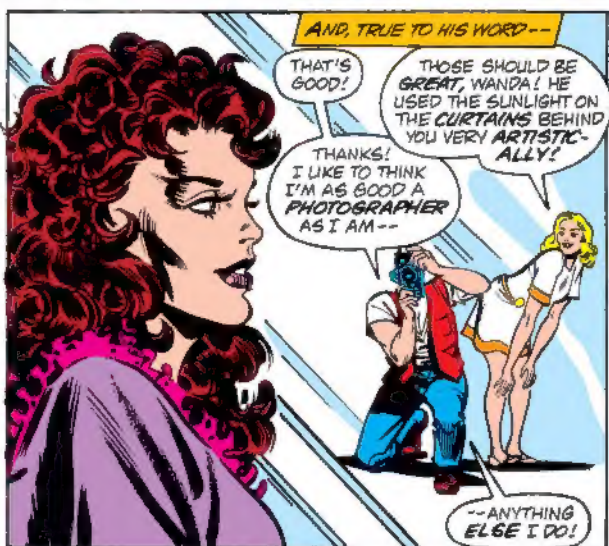
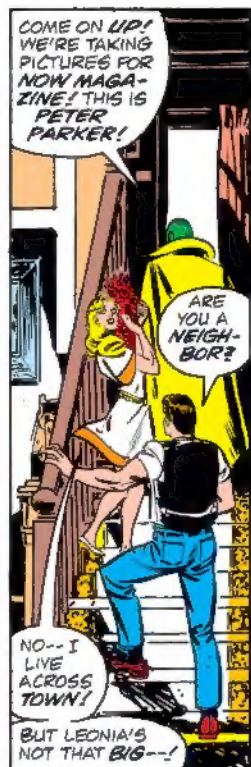
FWOOM!

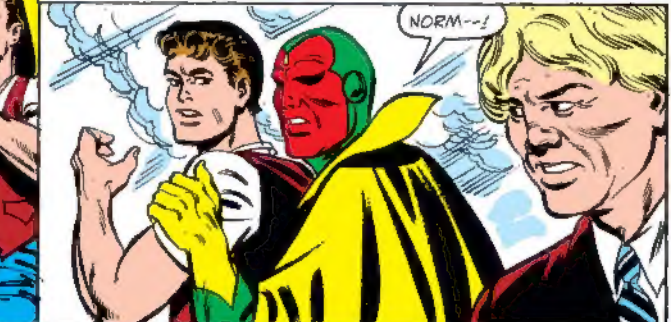
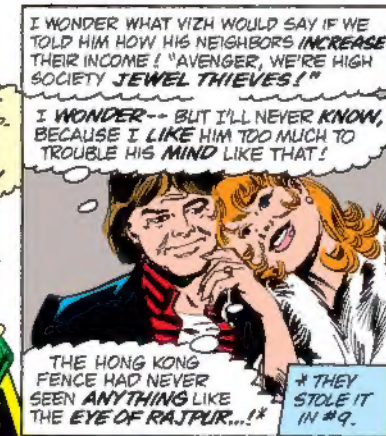
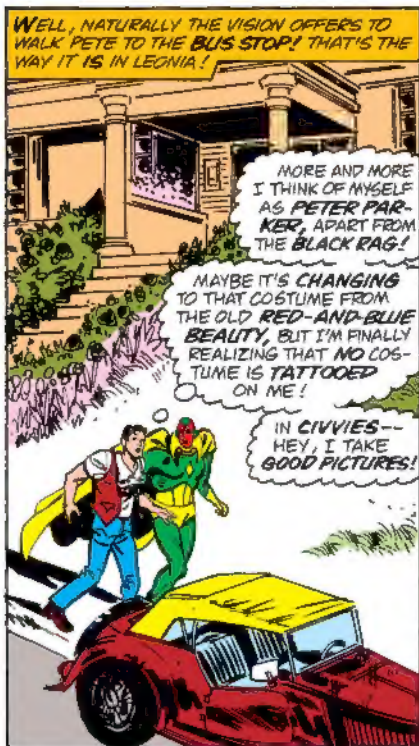


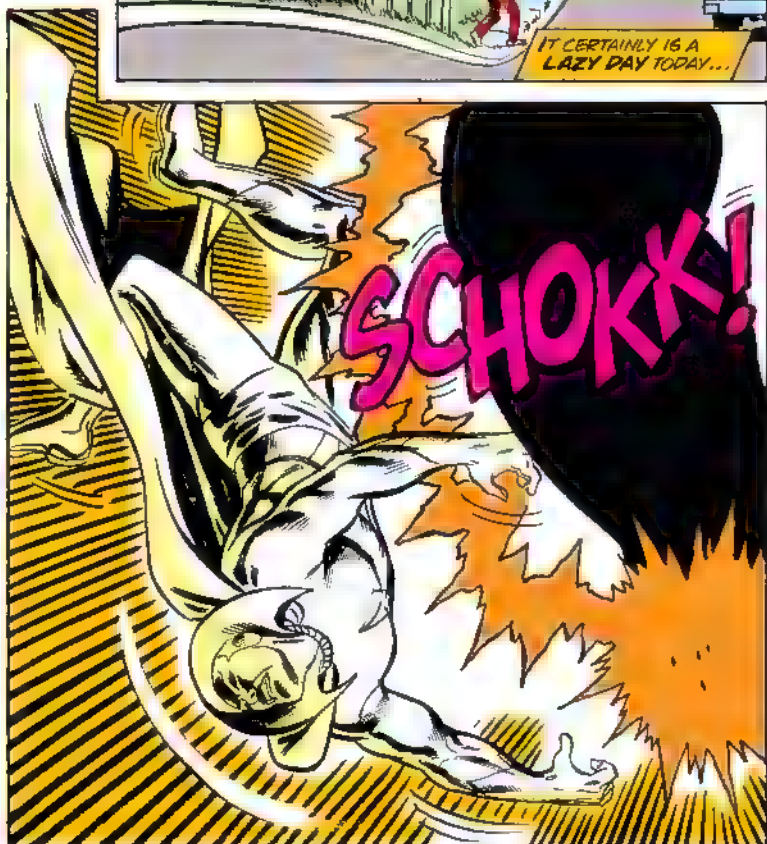
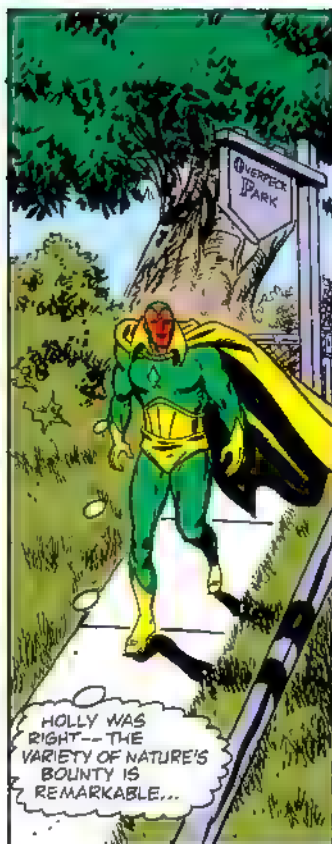
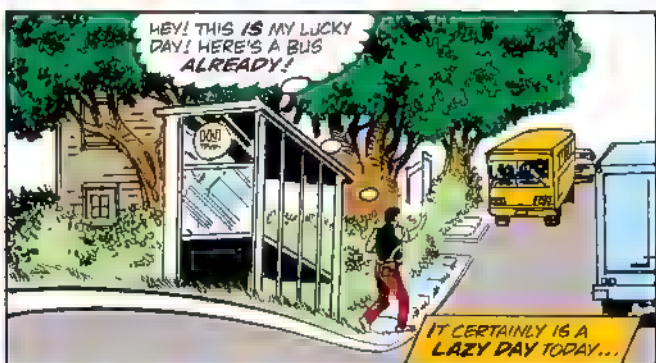
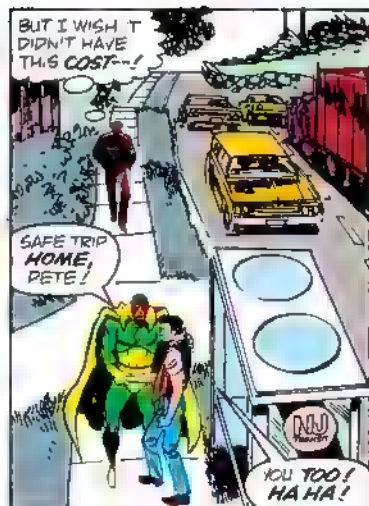
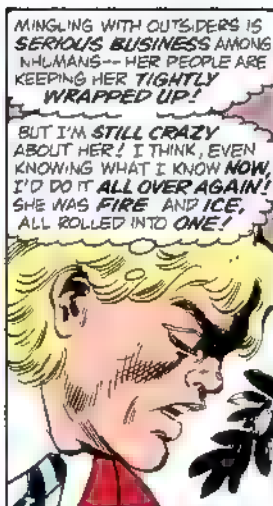
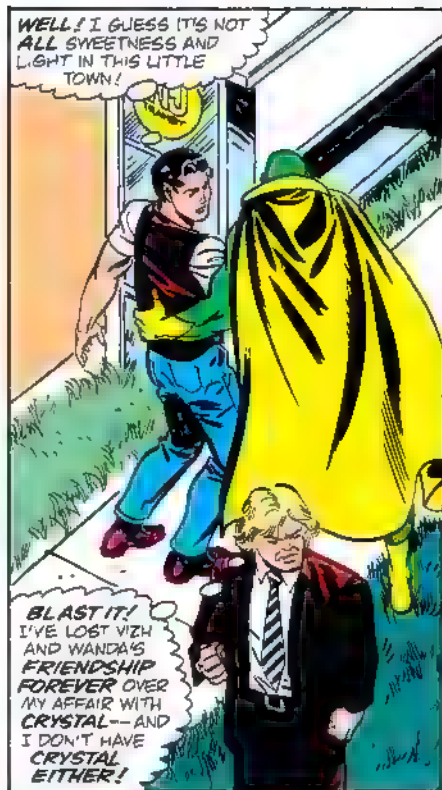
GONE-- LIKE HE WAS
NEVER THERE!

CAN I REALLY HAVE
SEEN HIM RUN AWAY,
OR IS MY MIND JUST
OVERTAKEN--?

NO-- WE SAW HIM
TOO! AND WE'LL SEE
HIM AGAIN--







WHEN YOU'RE A COSTUMED ADVENTURER, THOUGH, THE DAYS DON'T STAY LAZY LONG!

THE--
TOAD--!

THE TERRIBLE
TOAD-KING,
SYNTHOZO D--

--NOW DRESSED
FOR THE PART!

HIS EXO-SKELETON IS SOLID, INSTEAD OF PURE ENERGY LIKE THE LAST ONE*--AND AS IT MAKES CONTACT, A PULSE OF BALL LIGHTNING FOLLOWS THE BLOW'S MOMENTUM! THE ULTIMATE KNOCKOUT PUNCH!

ANOTHER SIX
SECONDS
TILL
MY DISRUPTED CIR-
CUITS REROUTE
THEMSELVES!

I WANT MY QUEEN,
SYNTHOZO D! I WANT THE SCARLET
WITCH, AND BY HOOK OR BY CROOK
I'LL HAVE HER!

* IN VISION/
WITCH #7.

AND PERHAPS IT WON'T
MATTER, BECAUSE I
WANT YOU WHERE YOU
CAN NEVER THREATEN
ME AGAIN-- ON A
LAB TABLE!

I AM NOT
A FUNNY
LITTLE MAN!
I AM A
KING!

YOU ARE A
WALKING
OBSESSION--!

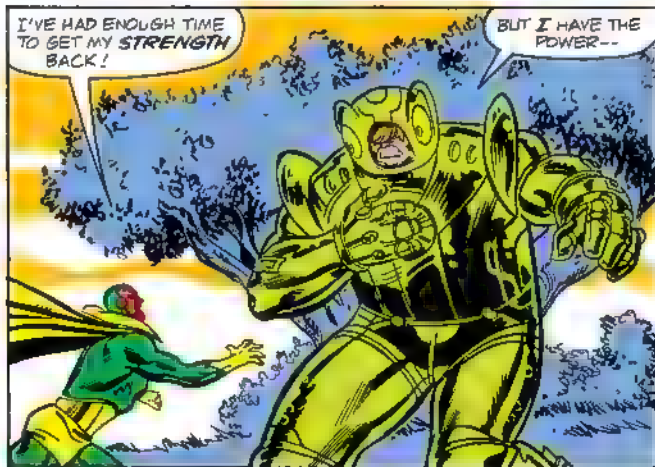
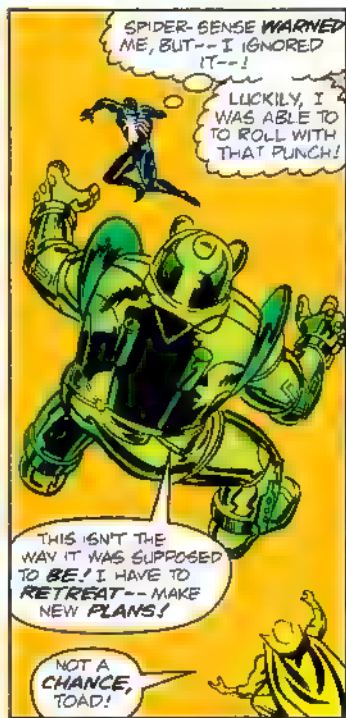
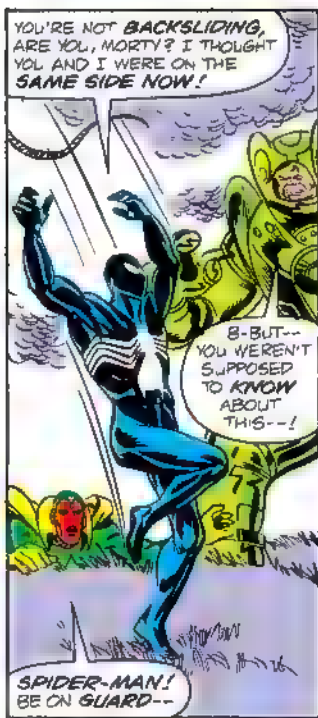
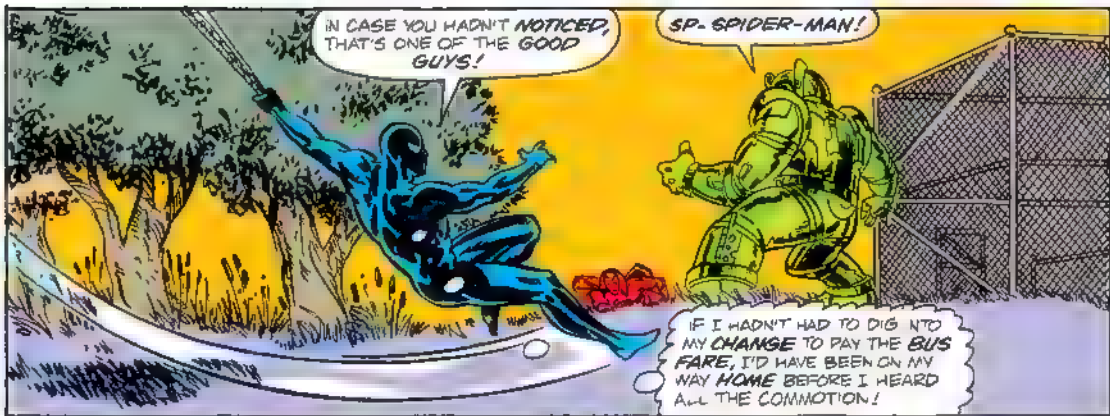
YOU SENT MY SHIP SPINNING
INTO DEEP SPACE THE LAST TIME
WE FOUGHT, BUT I TOLD YOU I AM
MASTER OF MACHINES!

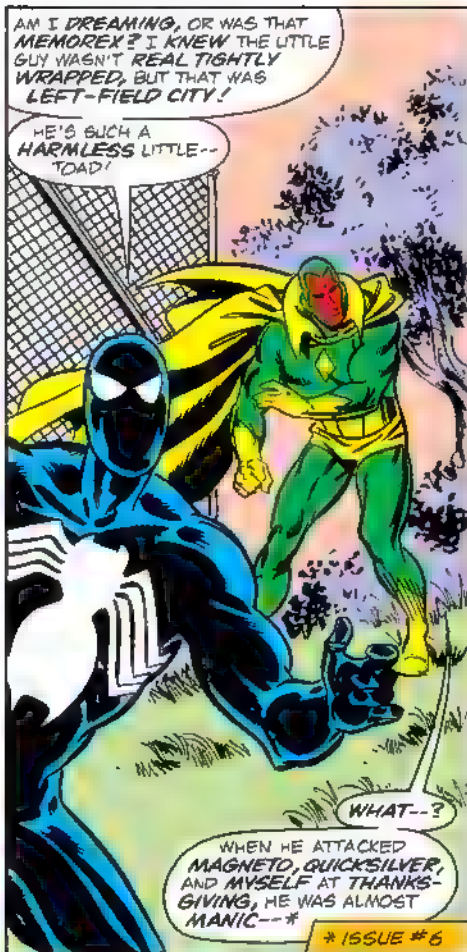
IF YOU FAILED TO BELIEVE ME THEN,
PERHAPS YOU'LL LEARN BETTER NOW
AS YOU FACE MY THERMOBLASTERS!

WALKING, YES--
AND TERRIBLE!
TERRIBLE!!

NORTIMER--!

WHAT'S GOIN'
ON, BUDDY?





AM I DREAMING, OR WAS THAT MEMOREX? I KNEW THE LITTLE GUY WASN'T REAL TIGHTLY WRAPPED, BUT THAT WAS LEFT-FIELD CITY!

HE'S SUCH A HARMLESS LITTLE-- 'DAD!

WHAT--?

WHEN HE ATTACKED MAGNETO, QUICKSILVER, AND MYSELF AT THANKSGIVING, HE WAS ALMOST MANIC--*

* ISSUE #6



--AND HE'S BEEN MORE POWERFUL EACH TIME WE'VE MET SINCE! **

I CONSIDER HIM A MAJOR THREAT TO MY LIFE!

WHAT--?

** ISSUE #7 AND NOW



WIZ, OLD BLODDY--

--I THINK WE NEED TO COMPARE A FEW NOTES...!



AND SO, SPIDEY TELLS A DISBELIEVING VISION ABOUT MORTIMER TOYNBEE'S ATTEMPTED SUICIDE A FEW MONTHS BACK--

HEY, SLIM! JUMPING OFF A 15TH STORY LEDGE IS AGAINST THE LAW!



--AND HIS MISGUIDED ATTEMPT AT THERAPY--

I'VE NEVER HAD A FRIEND IN MY LIFE! JUST PEOPLE WHO FEEL SORRY FOR ME! NO ONE TAKES ME SERIOUSLY!

I TAKE YOU SERIOUSLY! LISTEN, MORTY, I SAVED YOUR LIFE! IN SOME CULTURES, THAT MAKES ME RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU!

YOU'D... YOU'D REALLY BE MY FRIEND?



--WHICH, SEVERAL WEEKS LATER, LED TO--

I'M READY TO ACCEPT YOUR OFFER, SPIDER-MAN!

--OFFER--? OH, PLEASE, NO-- DON'T TELL ME...

THAT'S RIGHT! I'M GOING TO BE YOUR NEW PARTNER... FRIEND!

"BUT THEN WE GOT MIXED UP WITH TWO OTHER COSTUMED CRAZIES-- FROG-MAN AND-- SACK!-- SPIDER-KID-- AND THE LAST I HEARD, THE THREE OF THEM WERE GOING TO BECOME A TEAM-- OF HEROES, SUCH AS THEY ARE!"



"I CALLED THEM THE ALL-WIENER SQUAD!"

* IT WAS ALL IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN # 266.

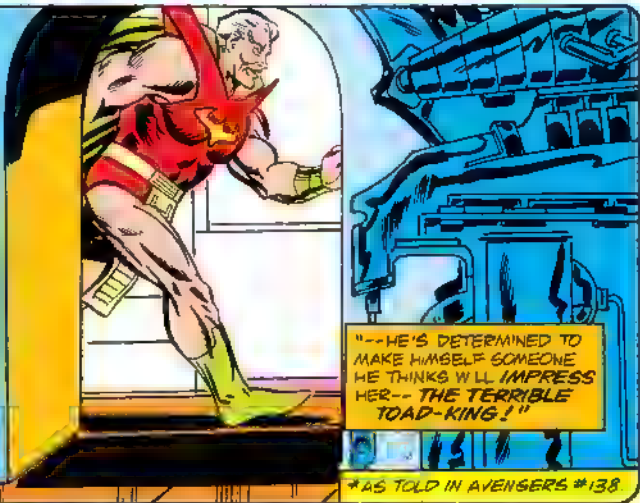
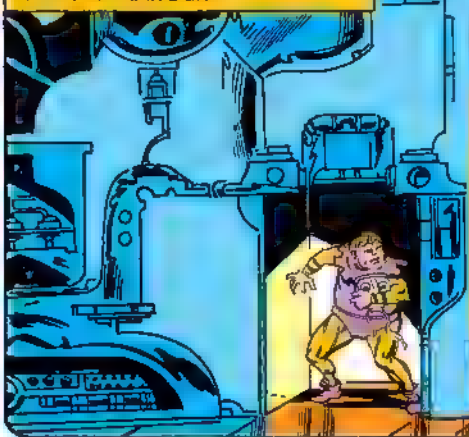
INCREDIBLE! AND DURING THIS SAME PERIOD, I'VE FACED A FANATIC WHO WANTS TO KILL ME AND CLAIM MY WIFE!

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN IN LOVE WITH WANDA, * NEVER CARING THAT SHE DIDN'T RECIPROCATE HIS FEELINGS--



* SINCE THE EARLIEST ISSUES OF THE X-MEN

-- AND, USING THE ALIEN MACHINES HE STOLE FROM THE BEING KNOWN ONLY AS THE STRANGER-- *



"-- HE'S DETERMINED TO MAKE HIMSELF SOMEONE HE THINKS WILL IMPRESS HER-- THE TERRIBLE TOAD-KING!"

* AS TOLD IN AVENGERS #138

COULD THERE BE TWO OF THEM?

NAH... I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY THERE'S ONE!



AND HE DID FALTER WHEN YOU CONFRONTED HIM! IT'S THE SAME MAN, ALL RIGHT!

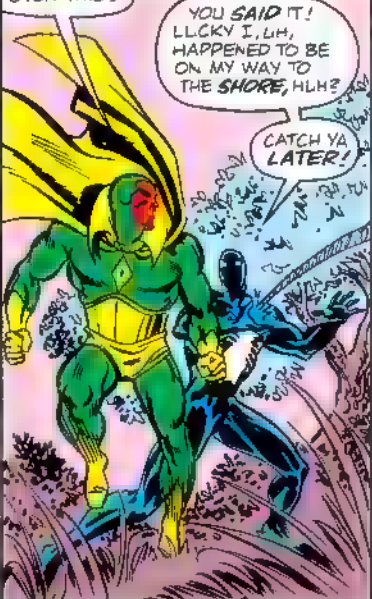
SPIDER-MAN, WE HAVE TO TRACK HIM DOWN BEFORE THIS GOES ANY FURTHER!

NO, VIZH-- NOT "WE"! IF HE DIDN'T TELEPORT TOO FAR AWAY, I STAND A GOOD CHANCE OF FINDING HIM BY MYSELF! YOU'RE NOT NEEDED FOR THAT--



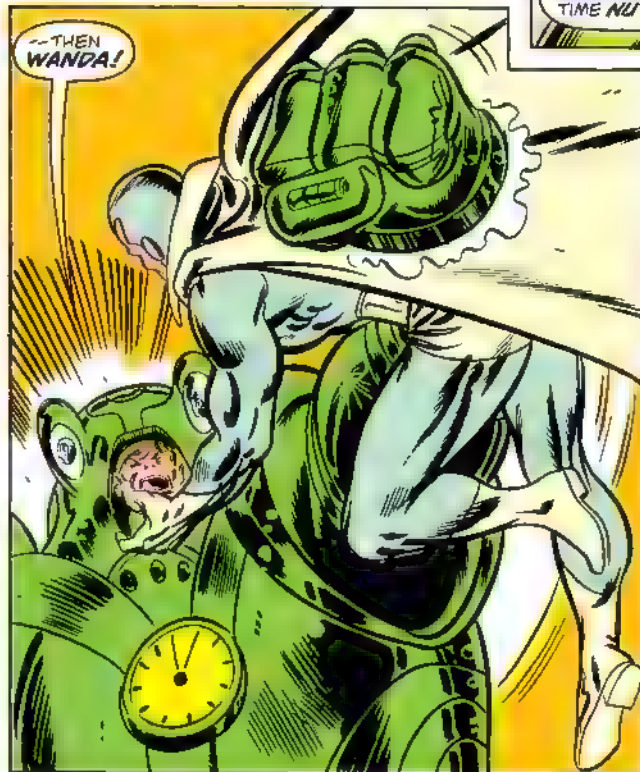
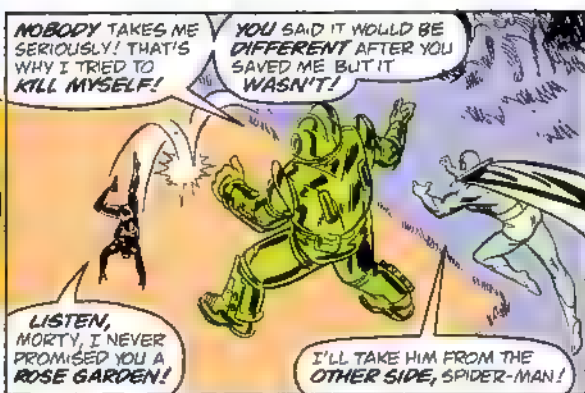
-- BUT I AM NEEDED TO PROTECT WANDA!

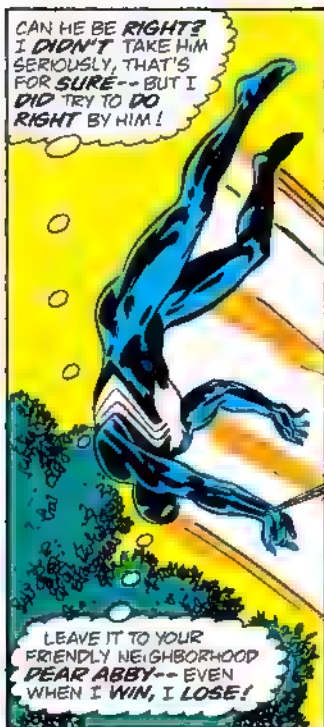
IT'S ODD-- WITH WANDA AND MYSELF OUT OF THE AVENGERS, AND YOU A LONER, WHO KNOWS HOW LONG WE COULD HAVE GONE WITHOUT STUMBLING OVER THIS?



YOU SAID IT! LUCKY I, UH, HAPPENED TO BE ON MY WAY TO THE SHORE, HUH?

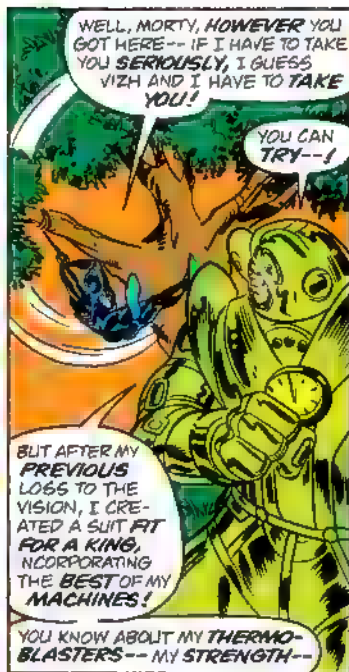
CATCH YA LATER!





CAN HE BE RIGHT? I **DIDN'T** TAKE HIM SERIOUSLY, THAT'S FOR **SURE**-- BUT I **DID** TRY TO DO RIGHT BY HIM!

LEAVE IT TO YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD **DEAR ABBY**-- EVEN WHEN I WIN, I LOSE!



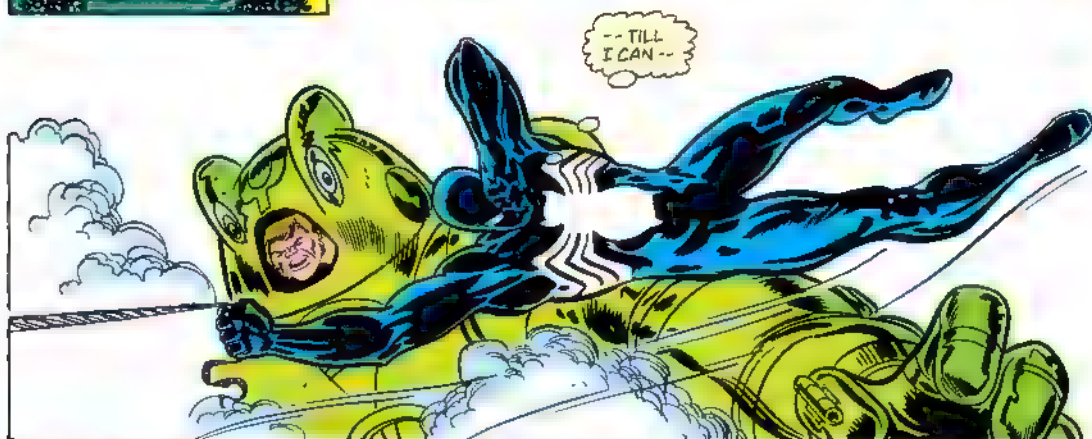
BUT AFTER MY **PREVIOUS** LOSS TO THE VISION, I CRE-ATED A SUIT **FIT** FOR A KING, INCORPORATING THE **BEST** OF MY MACHINES!

YOU KNOW ABOUT MY **THERMO-BLASTERS**-- MY **STRENGTH**--

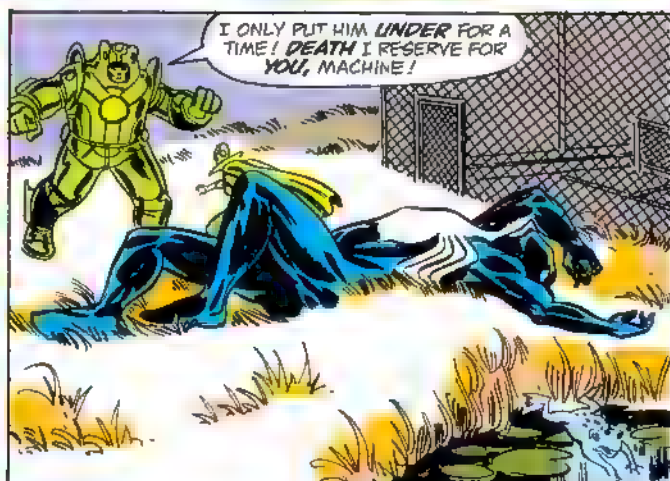


SHACK! SHACK! SHACK!

HAVE TO HOLD MY **BREATH**--!



PLOP!



I ONLY PUT HIM **UNDER** FOR A TIME! **DEATH** I RESERVE FOR YOU, MACHINE!

BUT AIRBORNE TOXINS
CAN'T AFFECT A MAN
WHO DOESN'T BREATHE!

ALL REAL MEN
BREATHE!

AND IN ANY
EVENT, THE TOAD-
KING HAS ANOTHER
POWER--THE
ABILITY TO--

--HOP!

HIS
TELEPOR-
TATION
DEVICE!

UNHH!!

MISS ME
HERE--

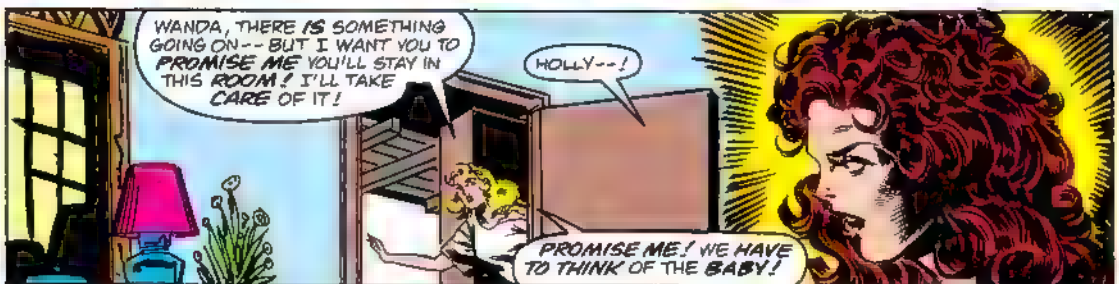
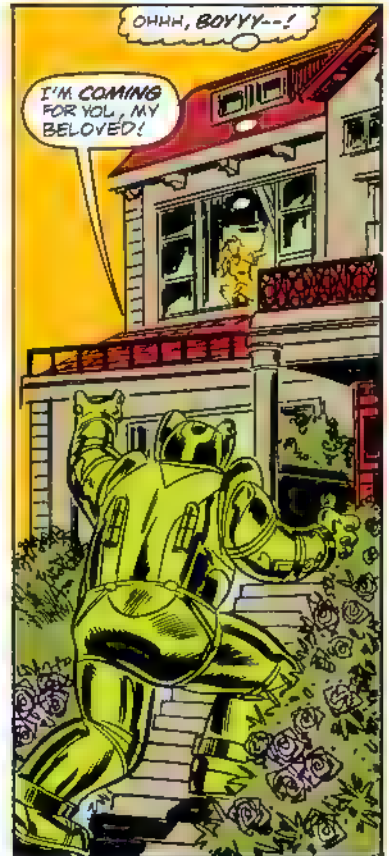
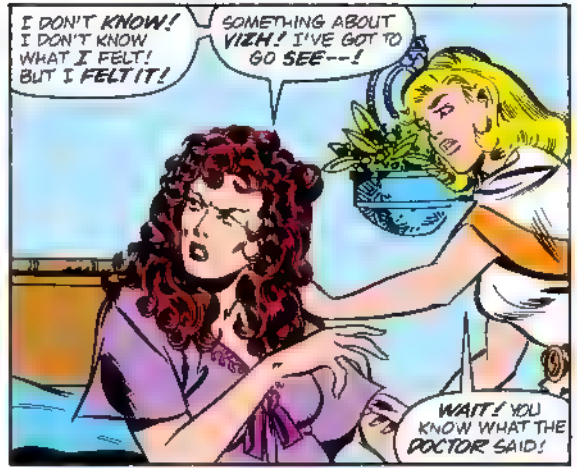
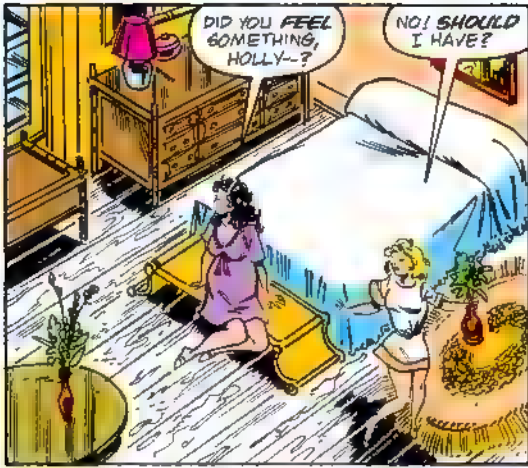
--MISS ME
THERE--!

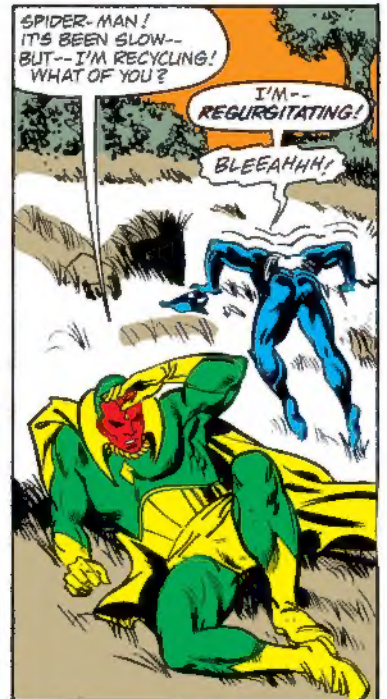
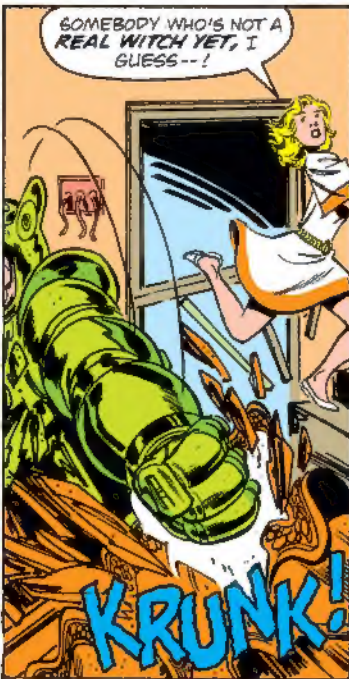
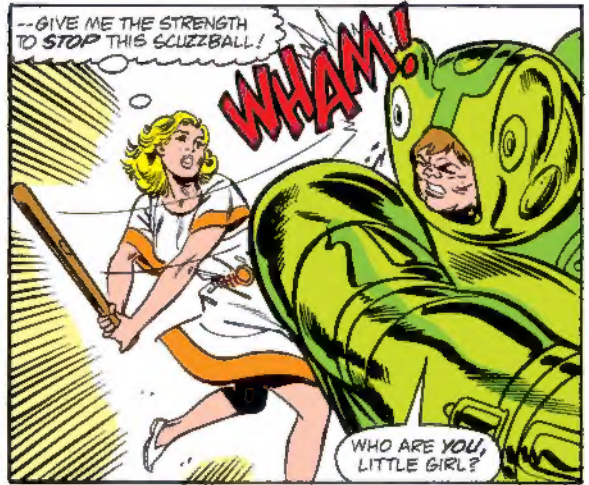
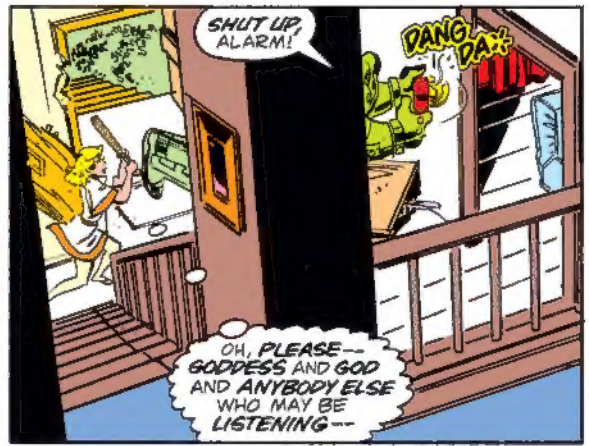
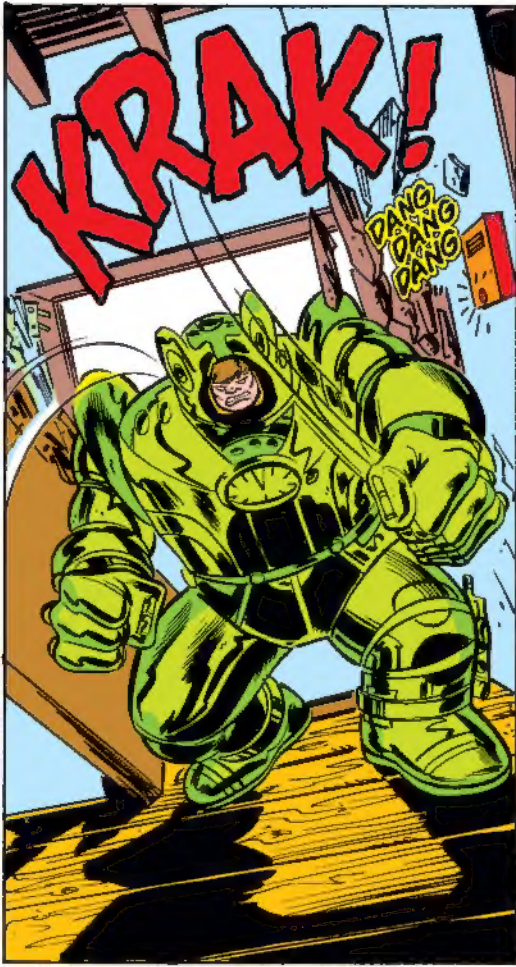
JUST SO
LONG AS YOU
MISS ME WITH
ALL YOUR
HEART!

SKRAWKK!!

NO TIME TO DEMATERI-
ALIZE, SYNTHOIDS? THEN
YOU'RE OBLIGED TO HAVE
A SYNTHETIC-HEART
ATTACK--

--THE FIRST OF TWO,
BECAUSE NOW THE
SCARLET WITCH IS
MINE!



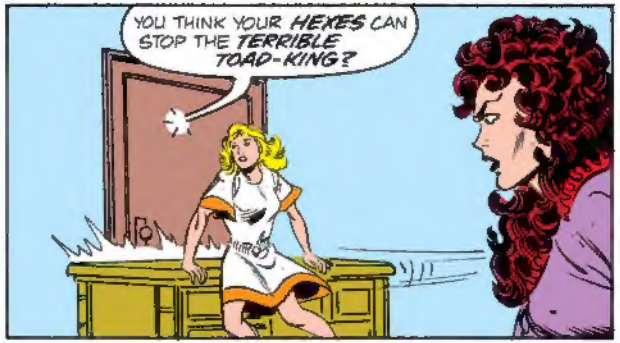




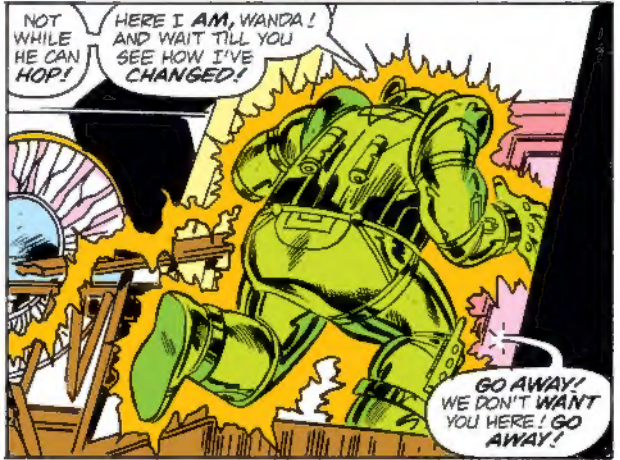
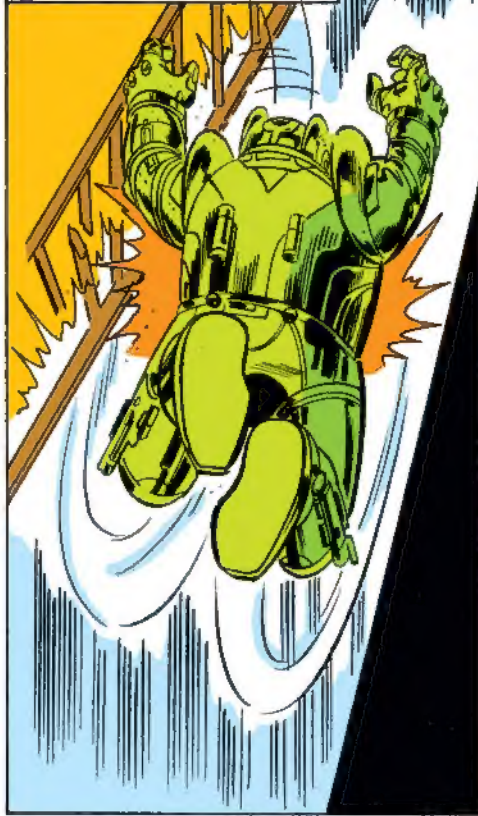
IT IS I, WANDA-- THE KING WHO CONQUERED YOUR HUSBAND!

NOW, AT LAST, I CAN CLAIM YOUR LOVE! NOW WE CAN--

~WHUFF!~



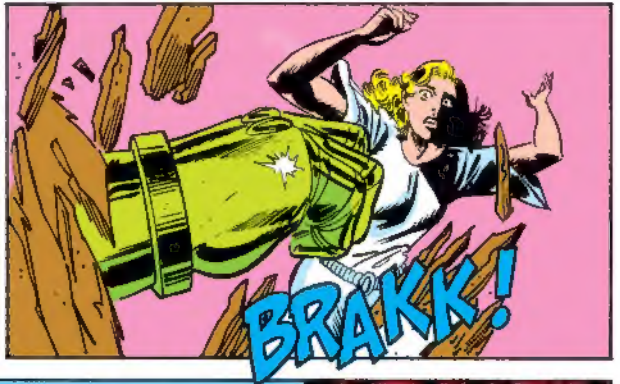
YOU THINK YOUR HEXES CAN STOP THE TERRIBLE TOAD-KING?



NOT WHILE HE CAN HOP!

HERE I AM, WANDA! AND WAIT TILL YOU SEE HOW I'VE CHANGED!

GO AWAY! WE DON'T WANT YOU HERE! GO AWAY!



AT LAST! AT LAST WE ARE UNITED, MY OWN--

